my tongue when I urged the crowd to leave the University building.

On October 21, the day the workers went back to their jobs, the government announced a broad political amnesty. This added a note of triumph to the end of the strike. Thus we did not notice that the revolutionary wave had begun to recede at the hour of our victory—after the promulgation of the Manifesto.

In ordering the end of the strike, the Soviet instructed the deputies to organize factory meetings, and several hundred such meetings were held in the capital on October 20. In view of the shortage of speakers, some meetings were held in the morning, others in early afternoon or after five o'clock. On the morning of the twenty-first, before work was resumed, meetings were again called for pep talks. The following day was Saturday, and many plants asked popular speakers to address a factory gathering. Next came Sunday—an excellent occasion to let the liberated political prisoners appear in the industrial precincts.

During this long weekend, factory meetings took hold in St. Petersburg. The political climate of the city changed. During the period of University meetings, the workers and their favorite speakers had been in the limelight. Now political life in St. Petersburg split visibly. Radical slogans dominated the industrial precincts around the rim of the city, while the moderates took over the center, under the spotlight of the press.

This change coincided with a deep cleavage in political forces. The Manifesto of October 17 satisfied the conservatives who had joined the opposition toward the end of the Russo-Japanese War. It did not, however, equally satisfy the moderate liberals—a broad and heterogeneous group that traditionally included a large part of the intellectuals. They continued to distrust the government, but some of them distrusted the revolutionary parties even more. Some would have accepted the goal of a freely and democratically elected Constituent Assembly if it had not been associated with the ideas of armed revolt and a future struggle for socialism. All in all, the moderate liberals still represented a progressive force, but they no longer formed a united front with labor. Thus, very soon after the October strike, a vacuum began to develop around the Soviet.

At that time the factory meetings were my main interest. The crowd was more homogeneous in factories than at the University, and there was more order and decorum. Every plant had a permanent chairman, and some of these men were very able.

In the big mills, the meeting place was fixed by an agreement between the workers' delegates and the management. It usually had a high platform wrapped in red, with the factory's red banners, some of them very elaborate, with gilded fringes and tassels. There were